

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
VALDOSTA DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, :
v. : Case No. 7:21-cr-06 (LAG)
MICHAEL ANDREW HESTER, :
Defendant. :

ORDER

On August 6, 2025, Defendant filed a Motion to Unseal (Doc. 218) the transcript of his Preliminary Hearing (Doc. 20) that was held on February 19, 2021. However, as the Government accurately notes, *see* Doc. 223, no transcript of the February 19, 2021 Preliminary Hearing has been prepared at this time. Consequently, Defendant's Motion to Unseal the transcript of his Preliminary Hearing (Doc. 218) is **DENIED as moot**. If Defendant wishes to have a transcript of the Preliminary Hearing prepared, he may order one from the Court Reporter. The Clerk is directed to forward to Defendant a copy of the transcript order form with the relevant information completed on the form.¹

SO ORDERED, this 25th day of August, 2025.

s/ **ALFREDA L. SHEPPARD**
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

¹ As the Government again notes, see Doc. 223, the February 19, 2021 Preliminary Hearing technically took place in case number 5:21-mj-15. However, that case merged with this case when the Government filed an Indictment on March 9, 2021. (Doc. 30).